

be a member of Eastern Avenue Christian Reformed Church. A number of programs contribute to the church's ministry in the neighborhood, including student tutoring, the formation of the multifaceted Baxter Community Center, and cooperation with Wedgwood Christian Youth and Family Services in teaching important life skills to young people. The Saturday Food Program is the hallmark of the church's service to the neighborhood, where every week hundreds of people can purchase fresh produce and groceries at substantially below-market prices.

Commitment to public service is also a defining characteristic of Eastern Avenue Christian Reformed Church: the church's membership has included a Member of Congress, a state senator, several state representatives and county commissioners, a state appellate court judge, and a federal district judge.

Through its 125 year history, the congregation of Eastern Avenue has been served by sixteen capable and distinctive pastors. It is currently in the midst of a search process to find a new pastor to lead this diverse and growing community of believers.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that you and all of my colleagues will join me in congratulating the members of Eastern Avenue Christian Reformed Church for their 125 years of service and worship in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The congregation has been blessed in its ministry, and the community has been blessed by the church's presence.

HONORING ADA KATHERYN LEWIS
ON HER 80TH BIRTHDAY SEP-
TEMBER 15, 2004

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2004

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ada Kathryn Lewis on her 80th birthday as well as her many years of dedication to the surrounding community.

Ms. Lewis was born September 27, 1924, in Wayne County, North Carolina to Charles and Annie Coor. She then graduated from Atlantic Christian College, cum laude in 1945 and began teaching. Throughout her teaching career, she taught in Johnston, Franklin, Wilson and Pitt Counties.

In 1962, Ms. Lewis received her MA in Educational Administration with honors from East Carolina University. In 1978, she was appointed Assistant Superintendent of Pitt County Public Schools, becoming the first woman to hold such a position at that level in North Carolina.

In 1982, Ms. Lewis retired from the public school system and became the first Director of the Rural Education Institute at East Carolina University (ECU). She held this position until 1986 when she retired and became a consultant for the Institute. She holds the title of Professor Emeritus and was appointed "Visiting Lecturer" to the ECU School of Education as well as being named "Distinguished Educator."

Ms. Lewis has been recognized by virtually every appropriate institution for nearly 50 years of dedication to the education of those that were influenced by her teachings.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Ms. Lewis for her

years of service to the youth of America and her dedication to the human mind. Her contributions and efforts are much appreciated and will always be remembered. Her service is an exemplary example of an ideal citizen.

TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY,
AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5025) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation and Treasury, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes:

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the Oxley-Frank-Kolbe-Pastor-Hinojosa amendment to H.R. 5025, the FY2005 Treasury Transportation Appropriations bill. The amendment would strike bill language, section 216, that prohibits the Treasury Department from enforcing or even publishing its recent regulations implementing the USA PATRIOT Act provisions requiring financial institutions to take reasonable steps to identify their customers.

This bipartisan Amendment is supported by the White House, the Chair and Ranking Member of the Financial Services Committee and virtually every major association within the financial services industry including the American Bankers Association, Consumer Bankers Association, Bankers' Association for Finance and Trade, America's Community Bankers, Financial Services Roundtable, the Credit Union National Association and the Securities Industry Association.

The Amendment would strike language adopted in subcommittee that would prohibit the Treasury Department from spending funds to administer and enforce regulations implementing Section 326 of the USA PATRIOT Act. Specifically, this language would prohibit the Treasury Department from implementing regulations issued on May 9, 2003, that permit financial institutions to accept matricula consular identification cards as part of a valid customer identification program.

Mr. Chairman, while I have objections to many aspects of the USA PATRIOT Act, I support the Section 326 requirement that financial institutions must establish "reasonable procedures" for verifying the identity of customers seeking to open a new account. Section 326 enhances the ability of financial institutions to detect and prevent both money laundering and the financing of terrorism by requiring institutions to develop comprehensive procedures for verifying customer identity. Yet section 216 of H. R. 5025 would make it impossible to achieve this important objective, and, thus, it should be stricken from the bill.

If the Oxley-Frank-Kolbe amendment is not adopted, this appropriations bill could drive large sections of the U.S. population to underground financial services providers and thereby weaken the government's ability to monitor and enforce our money laundering and anti-terrorist financing laws. Adopting this amend-

ment is critical to ensuring that our government has the ability to track terrorist finances.

Mr. Chairman, while those who are hostile to the Mexican matricula consular card want to transform this issue into a debate about immigration, this issue is not a debate about immigration. Rather, it is a debate about whether we will preserve the ability of our government to work with financial institutions to fight terrorism by tracking terrorist financing. The language in the bill doesn't simply prohibit the use of matricula consular cards—the bill prevents the Treasury Department from enforcing ANY type of identity verification under this important regulation.

The Oxley-Frank-Kolbe amendment enables banks and credit unions to recognize matricula consular cards as identification for financial transactions. The language in the bill does not merely discourage the acceptance of matricula consular cards. It, in effect, prevents their acceptance by financial institutions. The language in the bill effectively prohibits the Treasury Department from enforcing the USA PATRIOT Act's customer identification provisions that are designed to combat money laundering and terrorist finance.

If Section 216 remains in this bill, the Treasury Department would be prohibited from even telling financial institutions that they must verify the identity of their customers. Mr. Chairman, all of us know that it becomes more difficult to track tracking terrorist financing whenever more people turn to the underground financial system. Why would we want to adopt legislation that will make it easier and more common for people to opt out of the transparency of the mainstream financial system?

Mr. Chairman, denying foreign nationals access to the U.S. banking system will undermine the ability of U.S. law enforcement, regulatory, and economic agencies to do their jobs, since individuals will likely turn to other, less transparent, less regulated, and more expensive methods to transmit funds. We should be encouraging immigrants to use the mainstream financial system to hold and transmit funds. Allowing financial institutions to choose to recognize matricula consular cards as part of their customer identity verification program is sound public policy. I urge all my colleagues to support the Oxley-Frank-Kolbe Amendment.

CASTILLO DE SAN MARCOS NA-
TIONAL MONUMENT PRESERVA-
TION AND EDUCATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 13, 2004

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2457, the Castillo de San Marcos National Monument Preservation and Education Act; Castillo de San Marcos National Monument Boundary Adjustment Act of 2004.

The Castillo de San Marcos National Monument is the oldest existing permanent sea-coast fortification in the continental United States. This is not only a unique National Park, but also a national treasure.

This 16th Century fortress is the most complete and unique historic fortification in the United States.